

Memo

To: W.Kolb
R.Gemmell
R.Rice
N.Katin

From: A.Herrington

Copy: J.Miner
R.Pariseau ←

Subject: Ranger

Date: March 10 '86

(A) This weekend Jay and I had lengthy discussions about what the Ranger presentation should be focussed around. The following are the conclusions, and some requested actions. There will be two presentations, as follows, with best detail in the Ranger-S presentation.

(B) Ranger-S

This remains specified as a August production start/September delivery, ASAP product with the following (revised) definition:

Basis: Existing Amiga Card. Four slots, five slots, or three slots plus a double card (two cards back to back) slot - to be discussed. Bill Kolb/Amiga expansion architecture/cardframe. One to four (?) 3.5 FD's or 1-2 3.5 FD's and 1(?) 3.5 HD. No internal IBM compatibility. Packaging size/layout specified so that there is no internal IBM compatibility space or 'optionability'. IBM compatibility to be provided by connecting a BSW Amiga 'sidecar' in a way as yet undefined. (Could Bill please discuss how BSW are doing mechanics this with Rob). Initial expansion card a 1 or 2 or (?) megabyte memory card with a piggy mounted WC-ST506 HD controller to allow (i) a later, schedule decoupled, change to SCSI and (ii) deletion of HD controller when a 2 FD, 1 or 2 meg Ranger is required. Floating Point socket and Real Time Clock on buffer card or back plane ?

Please discuss any apparent lunacies in this proposal with me. It is assumed that the machine will be produced in either NTSC or PAL forms, using whatever the standard Amiga card is in July.

(1) Would Neil produce a 'Essential', 'Desirable', 'Easy to do' 'SCSI' and 'necessary hook insertion' review of the software modules needed for this machine.

(2) Would Rob please produce a sketch of a machine based upon this proposal. I hope this won't seem like an excessive waste of time already spent.

(C) Ranger-L. A presentation of the original, pre-Ranger-S, Ranger concept that's designed to show how the new chip set offers an opportunity for line extensions to the Amiga line and for the development of a new product, the Ranger/68020/3M machine.

(1) Ranger hardware specification and description, particularly for the mothercard.

(2) Schedule and why it was the way it was.

(3) Packaging concept and implications for product cost, quality, tooling, schedule.

(4) The new chip set - what it is and what opportunities it presents.

(5) 68020 as a compute engine.

(6) 68020/3M machine - new product based upon the Amiga architecture, new custom chip set, existing graphics software and Unix operating system.

(7) A cost estimate.

**brought to you by
andy finkel**